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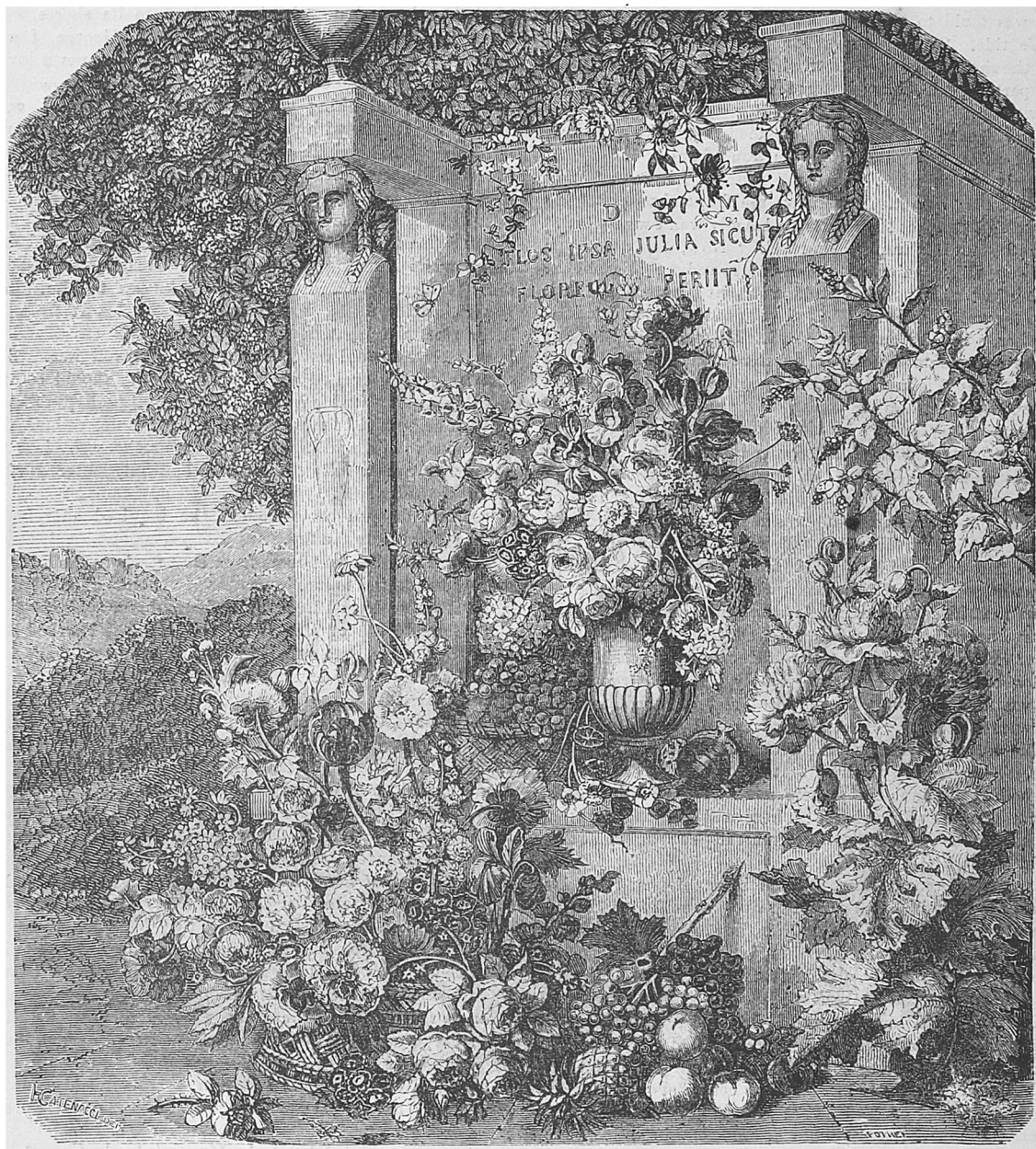
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"THE TOMB OF JULIA."

AMONG the few who have distinguished themselves as flower-painters was Vandael, the Flemish artist, one of whose *chefs-d'œuvre* we have here engraved. It is entitled "The Tomb of Julia," and is a pendant to his other masterpiece, known as "The Offering to Flora." In this latter painting there is an image of the goddess of flowers, with a landscape background. Balustrades and garlands surround the feet of the statue; an ancient altar adorned with bas-reliefs is placed before her and

of composition at once astonishing and charming, with a richness of colouring and elegance of form scarcely surpassed by nature herself. They were executed in 1802 and 1806, and purchased by the Empress Josephine for £640; and the French government voted an additional £160 as a reward to the artist.

A word or two in conclusion, with regard to the artist by whom these two pictures were painted. John Francis Van-



"THE TOMB OF JULIA."—FROM A PAINTING BY VANDAEI.

covered with flowers, baskets of which and instruments of music are also added to the offering. The other picture, with which we have now to do, is of quite an opposite character. It tells a mournful tale of human mortality. We see a tomb overshadowed with funeral shrubs, and upon it this inscription: "*Flos ipsa Julia sicut flores perit*—Julia, herself a flower, perished like the flowers." A vase of flowers, baskets, bouquets, and fruits are laid before the tomb as an offering to the departed. In both these paintings is displayed a grandeur

dael was born in Flanders, May 27, 1764. When scarcely twelve years old, he was sent to the studio of a decorative painter, and shortly after attended the course of the Academy, to learn linear drawing. A taste for painting soon developed itself, and absorbed every other in his mind. He took the earliest opportunity of removing to Paris, where, after having achieved a most brilliant career, under the patronage of Napoleon, Louis XVIII., and Leopold, king of Belgium, he died on the 20th of March, 1840.